

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 SY-05 PA-01
ICA-11 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OMB-01 /074 W
-----012874 211706Z /43
P 211632Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7377
TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UK
SUBJECT: CALLAGHAN-CARTER SUMMIT MEETING?

1. THE GUARDIAN OF JUNE 21 CARRIES A STORY HEADED "PM
SEEKS CARTER HELP IN SAVING SUMMIT." THE FIRST THREE
PARAGRAPHS READ AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE: THE PRIME MINISTER IS SEEKING URGENT TALKS
WITH PRESIDENT CARTER NEXT WEEK IN A BID TO RESCUE THE
PROSPECTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN BONN
NEXT MONTH. THERE IS GROWING ANXIETY IN LONDON THAT THE
HIGH HOPES PINNED ON THE BONN MEETING MAY ALREADY BE
TURNING SOUR.

MR. CALLAGHAN REVEALED IN THE COMMONS YESTERDAY THAT HE
WAS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH THE UNITED
STATES PRESIDENT. HE TOLD MPS THAT HE WOULD BE FLYING
TO AMERICA ON MONDAY TO RECEIVE AN AWARD IN MEMORY OF
THE FORMER US VICE-PRESIDENT, THE LATE SENATOR HUBERT
HUMPHREY.

BUT ALTHOUGH THE AWARD IS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE PRIME
MINISTER IN NEW YORK NEXT MONDAY NIGHT IT EMERGED YESTER-
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DAY THAT MR. CALLAGHAN IS PREPARED TO FLY FIRST TO WASH-
INGTON FOR TALKS WITH MR. CARTER. NO POSITIVE ARRANGE-
MENTS HAD BEEN REACHED LAST NIGHT, BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT
MR. CALLAGHAN ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS FEATURE
OF HIS VISIT. END QUOTE.

THE REMAINDER OF THE ARTICLE IS DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION

OF THE SUMMIT.

2. WE CHECKED WITH CARTLEDGE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE REGARDING THE ACCURACY OF THE STORY. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ASKED, IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, WHETHER HE WOULD SEE PRESIDENT CARTER WHEN HE IS IN THE U.S., AND THAT CALLAGHAN HAD REPLIED THAT HE HOPED HE MIGHT SEE CARTER. CONTRARY TO THE IMPLICATION OF THE GUARDIAN STORY, THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT SAY HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING THE SUMMIT. CARTLEDGE DESCRIBED THE STORY AS "INTELLIGENT SPECULATION."

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON09838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780259-0033
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780636/aaaabex.e.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3986b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2267439
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CALLAGHAN-CARTER SUMMIT MEETING?
TAGS: EGEN, UK, US
To: STATE TRSY
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3986b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014